

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE VAN DUZER
FOUNDATION AND SCOTT VAN
DUZER

HON. PATRICK MURPHY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 6, 2013

Mr. MURPHY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of the Van Duzer Foundation and its founder, Mr. Scott Van Duzer of Port Saint Lucie, Florida, in honor of his philanthropic efforts, which have touched many lives across the Treasure Coast.

Scott started the Van Duzer Foundation in 2008 to help families and individuals impacted by tragic and often unforeseen circumstances. Since its inception, the foundation has organized blood drives garnering more than 7,000 pints of blood and raising over \$800,000 for families and individuals in need. The Foundation's family-friendly fundraising events are well attended by many in the community and positively serve as a model of civic engagement.

A few years ago, Scott learned about two boys who were in desperate need of a blood transfusion. Because of a shortage, one of the boys waited nine hours for life-saving blood to arrive. Rising to the call of activism, Scott collaborated with his board of directors to partner with Florida's Blood Centers to host a blood drive where initially over 300 pints of blood were collected. The Foundation later hosted their inaugural Be a Hero Day where 1,000 pints of blood were donated. Having hosted several blood drives since, the 7,000 pints of blood collected by the Van Duzer Foundation have impacted over 21,000 lives, a figure of three lives per donation of blood. In recognition of the work of the Van Duzer Foundation, last year Scott was honored by a visit from President Obama at his local pizza shop where he gave the President a much-publicized bear hug. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the great work of the Van Duzer Foundation and to call Scott not only a constituent, but a friend. In today's busy, complex world we must recognize the depth of philanthropy and its impact. We better ourselves by improving our communities and being our neighbor's keeper. As evidenced through Scott Van Duzer and the Van Duzer Foundation, it is through these means in which all Americans can participate in perpetuating a prosperous pathway for our Nation.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND
LEGACY OF RUTH ASAWA

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 6, 2013

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, on August 6th San Francisco lost a visionary artist, educator, community activist, civic leader and beloved

friend. Ruth Asawa was an internationally recognized sculptor who will be long remembered for her public works of art, her extraordinary wire sculptures, and her commitment to the people of San Francisco, especially our children. Her memory will embolden future generations to devote their passions to the freedom of self-expression and public betterment.

The story of Ruth Asawa is the story of America, of great patriotism and ethnic pride, as reflected in her life and work. She earned the recognition she deserved, conquering discrimination as a female in a male-dominated discipline, and during and after World War II when our government incarcerated Ruth, then 16 years old, her family, and about 110,000 fellow Japanese Americans in internment camps throughout the United States.

Ruth and her family were first sent to Santa Anita Race Track in Los Angeles, California, housed in horse stables for six months before being transferred to a barbed wire enclosed camp in Rohwer, Arkansas. After the war, lingering ill will against Japanese Americans prevented her from securing a teaching position and completing her degree. She decided to study art at Black Mountain College in North Carolina where she studied with painter Josef Albers, dancer Merce Cunningham and architect/inventor Buckminster Fuller and met her husband Albert Lanier. They decided to live in San Francisco because of its vibrant arts community and respect for diversity as the Laniers were an interracial couple. In Noe Valley, one of many neighborhoods in San Francisco, they raised their six children.

As a trustee of the San Francisco Fine Arts Museums, Ruth influenced the evolution of the new de Young museum and was a strong supporter of the museum's innovative architecture. More than 150 of her works are preserved at the de Young where her gorgeous hanging wire sculptures are permanently displayed.

Ruth's public works include such recognizable San Francisco landmarks as the Andrea Mermaid Fountain at Ghirardelli Square, the Hyatt on Union Square Fountain, the Buchanan Mall Fountains in Japan town, the Aurora Fountain at Bayside Plaza and the Garden of Remembrance at San Francisco State. Other great works in the San Francisco Bay Area include the Japanese American Internment Memorial in front of the Federal Building in San Jose, California.

Ruth will be forever remembered for her dedication to our children and her loving work to make our schools and City more joyful learning environments. Her legacy will live on in the young artists who attend Ruth Asawa School of the Arts which she founded. She also founded the Alvarado Arts Workshop which established the artist-in-residence model of public arts education. It is a national model. Ruth helped organize the Music, Dance, Drama and Science (MADDS) Festival, now an annual city-wide youth event sponsored by schools, civic leaders, neighborhood groups, and museums.

It was a great honor for me to be asked to say a few words at the celebration of Ruth's

life on August 27th in San Francisco's beautiful Golden Gate Park. I spoke about our City's great love for Ruth and her tremendous impact on the Bay Area, and I learned about talents beyond Ruth's art, her love of gardening and sharing her bounty, most particularly her famous ginger garlic salad dressing, with her friends and loved ones. To Ruth's children Xavier, Aiko, Hudson, Addie and Paul, her ten grandchildren, and four great grandchildren I extend my deepest sympathy. I hope it is a comfort to them that Ruth will forever be remembered, not only for her work that so lovingly adorns our City, but also for her activism and leadership that showed us how to mentor generations to come.

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF
FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN HENDER-
SONVILLE, TENNESSEE AND
TSURU, JAPAN

HON. DIANE BLACK

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 6, 2013

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, this year, Hendersonville, Tennessee celebrates thirty years of friendship with its sister city, Tsuru, Japan. At a time when news headlines each day remind us of discord among other nations, the lasting relationship between these two cities stands as a reminder that when individuals and communities reach out across cultural boundaries, they can build meaningful bonds that stand the test of time.

First established on May 18, 1983 by former Hendersonville mayor T.W. Patterson and former Tsuru mayor Michimasa Tahabe, this relationship has truly lived up to its original purpose: "To serve as a perpetual symbol for mutual hospitality for the exchange of ideas and visitors between the cities of Tsuru and Hendersonville, and as a welcoming beacon to travelers from both communities."

The Tsuru-Hendersonville relationship has yielded many years of student exchange trips and delegation visits from parents, teachers, and community leaders that have enhanced the lives of our cities' people. Host families in both countries have generously opened up their homes to visitors and learned from their unique experiences.

Later this month, city officials, civic group representatives, local students, and members of the Tsuru-Hendersonville Friendship Committee will travel to Tsuru, Japan, to commemorate this special anniversary. As they join together with the Tsuru people to celebrate three decades of honor and goodwill, I join them in wishing for a prosperous future for both communities and many years of continued friendship.

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